A

# REPLY

To an Unjuſt, and Scandalous

# LIBEL,

INTITULED,

*A Modeſt Anſwer to Captain* Smyth's *Immodeſt* Memoirs *of* Secret Service; *and his Remarks upon the* D— *of* S—'s *Letter to the* Houſe of Lords.

---

By *MATTHEW SMYTH* of the *Inner-Temple*, Eſq;

---

*LONDON*,
Printed in the Year, 1700.

# A REPLY To an Unjuſt LIBEL, CALL'D *A Modeſt Anſwer*, &c.

*Richard Kingſton*, to uſher in his Legend with the more decency and formality, wipes his Mouth, and with ſuch an air of Sincerity and Aſſurance, as if he had approv'd himſelf to the World to be juſt the Reverſe of what he is, one that never told a Lie in his Life, makes publick Proclamation, *page* 2. that he enters the Liſts againſt me, *Not as a buſy Intermedler in publick Affairs, but as a Friend to Truth and Juſtice.*

I doubt not but this diſhoneſt, unmanly Inſult proceeds from his knowledg of my Confinement, and his hopes, that wanting my Liberty, I ſhould want either the Courage, or

the means to aſſert my ſelf, and detect his Falſhood. He knows that Men under ſuch Diſgraces are uſually deſtitute of Friends; and that few (how well ſoever they may wiſh) care to appear in Vindication of the Unfortunate. Upon this preſumption he has ventur'd to vouch ſeveral Perſons as witneſſes to facts of his own Invention, knowing that I was not at liberty to attend thoſe Perſons, in order to procure a juſt Teſtimony from them, and that one under my Circumſtances was not likely to find many Volunteers for his Service.

Theſe difficulties had been perhaps inſuperable, had my Anſwerer's Addreſs and Caution born any proportion to his Malice and Aſſurance. But his Confidence, that I am not in circumſtances to make any Defence, has lull'd him to that degree of ſecurity, that he lies without Guard, and may eaſily be foil'd by an Adverſary in a manner diſarm'd, as I am. But Truth is under the protection of Providence, to which alone I attribute it, that a Fellow, who has all his Life practis'd a Trade that requires a good Memory, ſhou'd ſo notoriouſly forget his Cunning, and lay himſelf open to ſo many, and ſo obvious Exceptions. As for his pretended love to Truth, I ſhall in the ſequel ſhew him a ſtranger, and an enemy to it; and for Juſtice, had ſhe ever known him, he had e'er this been an Appendix to a Gibbet. But to give an Hiſtorical draught of him, I ſhall wait a more

ſeaſon-

ſeaſonable Opportunity, if I be not in the mean time prevented by ſome better hand.

His firſt Objection is, that my *Book was not written by* me, *but by Mr. Brown.* P. 6. This he pretends to prove by Mr. *Brown's* own Confeſſion. Whether Mr. *Brown* ever made any ſuch Confeſſion or not, I know not, having never ſeen that Gentleman, nor heard from him, ſince it was charg'd upon him. But as I have yet only *R. Kingſton's* word for it, I ſhould do Mr. *Brown* wrong, if I believed any thing againſt him upon that; after ſuch proof as I have of his Veracity, and ſhall by and by produce. But I leave Mr. *Brown* to vindicate himſelf from this Aſperſion, which I doubt not but he will do to his own Reputation, and every body's Satisfaction. But if Mr. *Brown* had made any ſuch Confeſſion (which I do not ſuppoſe) I muſt take the liberty to ſay, that 'tis utterly falſe. Nor do I herein ſtand upon my own Credit only, which generally is all that a Man in my caſe has to defend himſelf with; but I appeal to an *Original Manuſcript* which I preſented into his Majeſty's own Hands, *November* the 10*th* 1696, which differs in nothing from the printed *Memoirs*, except that it contains ſomething more, which I left out of that which I deſign'd for the Preſs; becauſe I thought it not proper for the publick View.

This

This Manuſcript was written after two or three Years diſcontinuance of Acquaintance with Mr. *Brown*, who was formerly my School-fellow, and long before it was reviv'd. I appeal likewiſe to the *Original* Letters recorded in the *Houſe* of *Lords*, which were written during the ſame Interval, and agree with the printed Letters. What alterations they upon Collation can accuſe me of, I willingly confeſs, and voluntarily offer my ſelf to the ſevereſt Puniſhment that my Enemies can inflict, or *Richard Kingſton*'s Malice invent, if they find me varying in the leaſt circumſtance of Fact, or point of Time.

'Tis true, Mr. *Brown* at my Requeſt did write a Preface for me, which if *R. Kingſton* will have to exceed my Capacity, I ſhall not diſpute the point with him, or the prize of Parts with Mr. *Brown*. But 'tis as true, that as well written as that Preface was, I was forc'd to lay it almoſt all aſide, as being too general for my purpoſe, and, retaining but a ſmall part, to fill up the reſt with what was more proper to my own Caſe, tho perhaps leſs elegant.

His next Aſſertion is ſupported likewiſe by the pretended Authority of Mr. *Brown*; which he has taken ſufficient care (as far as in him lies) to deſtroy, by the ſcandalous Character he has given that Gentleman. I don't inſiſt upon any Account that *R. Kingſton* gives, either of Fact, or Perſons; but I preſume no body

body will value the Teſtimony of an Evidence introduc'd with ſuch a Character by the very Perſon that makes uſe of him. But Mr. *Brown* has a Fellow-ſufferer, more perhaps by one than he knows of, who may in ſome meaſure qualify the foul Language given him by *R. Kingſton*. For *Richard Kingſton* has (I can't ſay abus'd, but) vilifi'd *Richard Kingſton* in as reproachful Terms, as ever he did *T. B.* For *Richard Kingſton*, upon the breaking up of the laſt Seſſion of Parliament, took occaſion to write a villanous Libel called, *Curſory Remarks upon ſome late diſloyal Proceedings*, wherein he arraigns the —— Parliament of Diſloyalty; and no ſooner was that out of his hands, but the ſame Numerical *Richard Kingſton*, to turn the penny at a hard time, falls to work, and writes an Anſwer to the *Curſory Remarks*, called, *A juſt Rebuke to an unmannerly Libel*, intituled, *Curſory Remarks*, &c. After this, from the very ſame hand, comes a *Reply to the Rebuke*, &c. The whole reſult of which Pamphlets was, that the *Curſory Remarker* was demonſtrated a Sawcy Raſcal, the *Rebuker* an Hypocritical Fool, and the *Replyer* of conſequence both. But *Richard Kingſton*, who (it ſeems) knows *Richard Kingſton* intimately well, has beſtow'd proper Epithets upon him, the only proof that ever he gave of his Honeſty, or Underſtanding, in uſing a Knave like a Knave. Yet even in this ſingle inſtance, he is not half ſo honeſt as he

ſhould

ſhould be; for after he had told the World, that the Writer of thoſe Pamphlets was a Knave, and a Fool, he ought to have publiſh'd to the World who that Writer was. But tho he has been a little too tender of a Raſcal, he has taken care to engage Mr. *Brown* to be his Hiſtorian, and proclaim his Moral Virtues, and the Great Council of the Nation (I hope) to reward him for 'em. If any one ſhould diſpute his Title to thoſe three meritorious Pieces, or any of 'em; his old Vouchers *A. R.* and *B. B.* his ſcandal Printers, who did the Publick the favour to print and diſpoſe of 'em, can juſtify and ſupport his Claim, and can't in juſtice refuſe him this Teſtimony, tho I hear they proteſt againſt what he has already quoted them for againſt Mr. *Brown*, becauſe 'tis utterly falſe. But that's a matter that concerns another Man, to whom I ſhall leave it, and return to what relates more immediately to my ſelf.

With abundance of Confidence *Richard Kingſton* charges *a Party* (as he is
P. 6. pleas'd to call 'em) *of conſiderable Perſons*, with *contributing to the Charge of my Maintenance, and publiſhing my Book.* But he thinks it *neither ſafe nor prudent to remember their Names.* This is the only Lie through his whole Book, that he has told with any manner of Skill, the reſt are all unblanch'd Braſs, as hard as his own Forehead. But here he fortifies himſelf, and ſtirs not out of generals,

generals, and very honeſtly, as well as prudently, lays the burden of his Lie upon Mr. *Brown*'s ſhoulders. For had he deſcended to particulars, and given Names, thoſe ſeveral conſiderable Perſons might have convicted him of, and puniſh'd him for Defamation and Lying. Leſt therefore he ſhould be forc'd to eat his words, he has cunningly put 'em into Mr. *Brown*'s Mouth, as ſhifting Pickpockets when they apprehend a Search, ſlip what they have ſtolen out of one mans pocket into anothers. To countenance this ſham pretended Revelation of Mr. *Brown*, he ſupports it with a Forgery of his own, a ſort of Legerdemain he has had recourſe to in greater matters; witneſs his counterfeit Letters of Orders, by which he crept in to be a ſcandal to the Church. To prove that my Book muſt needs have been printed at the joint Charge of a Party, he pretends that five hundred were given away, the Expence of which he ſuppoſes I could not bear. To make *R. Kingſton* all the allowances I can with truth, I'll tell him what number was given away, which was fifty, which were all diſpos'd of by my ſelf, or my Order; the reſt were all ſold to, and paid for by th ſe who had 'em; ſo that I was at no ſuch Expence as he imagines. In this account he modeſtly ſtretches to but ten for one, and lies no more than four hundred and fifty, a ſmall matter with him.

P. 9. He charges Dr. *Chamberlen with being Caſheer to the Party, and ſending Money to* me, *as often as* I *ſent for it.*

'Tis true, Dr. *Chamberlen* did receive Money for me by agreement, between Mr. *Arnold* and my ſelf, he being the Perſon that engag'd me to go abroad for the Service of the King, and was to have tranſmitted to me by the hands of Dr. *Chamberlen*, the monthly Penſion agreed on betwixt us. But who the Party were (if they were more than one) that was concerned with Mr. *Arnold* in this matter, and disburs'd the Money, is more than I yet pretend certainly to know: And I ſhould take it kindly of him, if he would inform me. For they were the only Perſons that ever he was Caſheer to upon my account.

After this, he drops me, to fall upon Mr. *Brown*, till page the 13*th*, where, as a ſample of his good Manners, he diſplays his talent of Scurrility upon the Office of *Comptroler* of the *Temple*, and then proceeds to my being a Captain of an Independent Company at *Windſor-Caſtle*. Upon this, with his uſual good Conſcience, and Integrity, he tells the Reader, *p.* 14. that I *was broke for being an arrant Coward*. And herein indeed I find the only inſtance of that Modeſty which he brags of in the Title Page. For being conſcious that he ly'd, he neither names thoſe Lords whom he pretends to vouch, nor the fact of

of Cowardiſe which ſhould deſerve ſo ſevere a Chaſtiſement. I am ſure it is not in tenderneſs to me, whatever he would inſinuate, but upon preſumption, that under the Circumſtances I am in, none of thoſe Lords will ſo far eſpouſe my Quarrel, as to right me publickly, if they ſhould remember the occaſion. And I ſuppoſe he preſumes upon my Confinement, his own Age, or the Cloth that he by Forgery wears, that he himſelf ſhall not be made an inſtance of the contrary. But ſince he takes this Liberty with theſe unknown Lords, I muſt be ſo free as to appeal to 'em likewiſe, whether there was not at that time a general Reform of the Regiment, and five or ſix Officers more broke at the ſame time with my ſelf, without any ſuch thing urg'd againſt any one of us. And I doubt not if they will declare themſelves in this matter, their own Honour will oblige 'em to do me juſtice againſt this Fellow, or to aſſign ſome particular inſtance, that I may be in a Capacity to make my defence.

From hence to page 20, I have little occaſion to anſwer, becauſe the matters therein alledg'd being only what is pretended to have paſs'd in private Converſation, the proof depends wholly upon thoſe Gentlemen whoſe Names and Authority are therein made uſe of: Becauſe he and I, being parties (tho I hope upon a very dif- *P.* 14.

ferent Foot, and of very unequal Credit, notwithſtanding my preſent Circumſtances) what each may ſay for himſelf, may be juſtly liable to ſuſpicion in a Caſe that requires proof. My Confinement hinders me from applying my ſelf to thoſe perſons for remedy againſt ſo groſs a ſcandal. However the ſingular honeſty of one of thoſe Gentlemen, whoſe name he has falſly made uſe of, furniſhes me with ſufficient matter to make my own Defence, and detect his Roguery. Mr. *Charles Read*, whom he like an ill furniſh'd Liar, calls *William*, finding his Name uſed by *R. Kingſton*, to ſupport divers things which he knew to be falſe, generouſly gave me the following Certificate under his hand.

---

Saturday

# Saturday *January* 6. 1699.

I Charles Read *Gentleman, having read the* 14*th*, 15*th*, 16*th*, 17*th*, 18*th*, 19*th*, 20*th*, *and* 42*d pages of a Book, intituled,* A Modeſt Anſwer to Captain *Smyth's* Immodeſt Memoirs of *Secret Service,* and his Remarks upon the D— of *S*—'s Letter to the *Houſe of Lords,* &c. *do hereby declare that what is written in the ſaid Pages* (*that I can witneſs the ſame*) *is utterly falſe, and untrue. And I never did hear Captain* Smyth *ſpeak immodeſtly, unhandſomly, or diſreſpectfully againſt the Duke of* Shrewsbury. *Captain* Smyth *only complain'd that he thought himſelf hardly uſed for his Service to the Government. And I* Charles Read *do further declare, that I was the firſt Perſon who introduc'd the aforeſaid* Richard Kingſton *into Captain* Smyth's *Company: And that* Richard Kingſton *did pretend to be employ'd and intruſted by the Right Honourable the Earl of* Portland, *to inquire into that Affair;*

*and*

*and that he could bring Captain* Smyth, *by the Earl of* Portland, *to his Majeſty, in order to have his Services fairly repreſented, that he might be rewarded for the ſame. Witneſs my Hand, the Day and Year firſt above written.*

Charles Read.

After this, I ſuppoſe, I have no occaſion to anſwer particularly to any thing contain'd in thoſe Pages, except a Letter which he pretends he receiv'd from me. The contents of that Letter run counter to what *Kingſton* offers to depoſe. But at that time, as it appears by this Gentleman's Certificate, I did not complain of the Duke, for any thing but hard Uſage of my ſelf; nor did I indeed ſuſpect him of any thing more. And whereas he pretends I put all my Letters into his Hands to peruſe, the two therein mention'd were the only ones I ever truſted him with; and thoſe only in order to give undeniable Credit to what he ſhould ſay in my behalf to the Earl of *Portland*, by whom he pretended to be employ'd, and whoſe entire Confidence he boaſted himſelf maſter of. What a villanous uſe he made of this Truſt of mine, he himſelf in this Book has ſhewn: and now I am no longer a ſtranger, who it

was

was that inform'd the D— of S— that I complain'd of him in very publick Places, in a very unhandſom manner; and I hope his Grace will be as little at a loſs what value to put upon the Informer, and his Informations.

One thing *R. Kingſton* has the Front to aſſert, that is in it ſelf ridiculous enough to deſtroy his Credit: which was, that I would accept of no Reward without the *Title of a Duke*. By way of prevention, he tells the Reader, that it will *appear ſtrange to thoſe who know me not*; and I muſt tell him that it will appear much ſtranger to thoſe that do know me. But to corroborate this Story, he offers the Oaths of *three Gentlemen* (that is, Mr. *Jermy*, and Mr. *Read*) out of whom he has paum'd an unknown third upon his Reader; for thoſe are the only two he mentions, without pretending a third Perſon (except our ſelves) tho he calls 'em the three abovenamed. How ſure he is of the Oaths of theſe two Gentlemen, whom he has made Three, is pretty plain from the Certificate aforegoing. But ſince he wants a Teſtimony of my Ambition, I will my ſelf furniſh him with a very good one. P. 19.

After my Lord *Portland* had introduc'd me to the King (not by the means of *R. Kingſton*) and his Majeſty had promis'd to provide for me, the Secretary of State, by his Majeſty's

jeſty's Command, ask'd me whether I choſe to ſerve in the Army, or in any other Employ, and left me to conſider. Soon after the Comptrolerſhip of the Mint becoming vacant, I ſolicited the Earl of *Portland* for it. But his Lordſhip told me I ſhould have any Penſion rather than a Place, *&c.* I queſtion not but that noble Lord will do me the Juſtice to avow that this was what I ask'd in full ſatisfaction of my Services, and to my Ambition. I did not ſuppoſe that place to be above 5 or 600 *l. per Annum*, which I hope is ſufficient to clear me from the Vanity of a Dukedom.

His third Article againſt me is, *That the very Letters of* my *Correſpondence, as*
P. 6. *now printed in the Memoirs, are ſo alter'd, and in 'em are ſo many ſpurious Gloſſes, and artificial Connections, that they can't be ſaid to be the ſame with the Originals ſent to the D—.*

In anſwer to this, I ſay as before, that the Original Papers were in the *Houſe* of *Lords*, and a Manuſcript of 'em in the King's Cabinet, before I had any Correſpondence with Mr. *Brown*. And *R. Kingſton* himſelf has not thought fit to inſtance in any one ſingle particular wherein I have varied from 'em, and conſequently this whole charge can't be lookt upon otherwiſe than as a Lie, without the leaſt ſupport of Argument or Authority, and for that reaſon it deſerves no further Conſideration.

His

His laſt Article is, *That the ſubſtance of both my Books, generally ſpeaking, are mere ſardles of Improbabilities, Incongruities, and invented Falſities.* P. 6.

If the ſubſtance of theſe Books be falſe, Sir *Thomas Pendergraſt*, Mr. *De la Rue*, and Captain *Porter*, are forſworn. And *Richard Kingſton*, if not, has abus'd the Government and Juſtice of the Nation in the groſſeſt manner. For if what I have ſaid in my *Memoirs* is falſe, all thoſe that were Executed upon account of the Aſſaſſination Plot, ſuffer'd for what they never intended. But he offers no manner of Proof of this improbability, incongruity, and falſity, he lays to my charge. He does not ſay that any one particular in thoſe Letters is falſe, for fear it ſhould occaſion a further Scrutiny by thoſe in whoſe Power it is to know the whole Truth, and puniſh him for an Infamous Liar. But having laid down his Aſſertion, he lets it drop without proof, upon ſuppoſition, that the World knows him ſo little as to take his word. Inſtead of proving it falſe, he falls to his ſhifts, and to amuſe his Reader, leads him out of his way, with a Story of Mr. *John Hewet* (who, according to his account of him, *p.* 22. was a Boy of thirteen years of Age, after he was 22) whoſe fidelity at thoſe Years the *Jacobites* had already experienc'd, by which it ſhould ſeem he had been a long while intruſted by 'em, tho then

but thirteen, if they wou'd commit those Secrets that concern'd all their Necks to his Management. And here I can't but observe that Judgment is as necessary to a Liar, as Memory. Will the World believe the *Jacobites* so arrant *Sots*, as to trust the conveyance of all their Letters, as *R. Kingston* owns, to a Boy of thirteen, that was kept on Charity? No, but *Hewet* was Nephew to Major *Holmes*, and upon his Confidence in him, was intrusted; and tho he was but thirteen four years ago, he is now six and twenty, and was then actually included in the number of the Assassins, and was employ'd by 'em to view and take the number of the Guards that usually attended the King; in which he desired me to assist him, and accordingly I did, and gave an account of it to the D——, as appears by my Letter of the fifth of *January* 95.

*Mem.* p. 80.

But having (as he imagines) made a Boy of thirteen of *Hewet*, he proceeds in triumph, after his blundering way, to make a Fool of me, as he vainly conceits he has already done of all the *Jacobites*. And pretends that either I had no interest in this Boy, or knew not how to make good use of it. His reason for this is, because *had there been such an intire Confidence between the Boy and* me, *as* I *pretend to*, Jack Hewet *was able most Weeks in the Year, and almost every day in the Week, to have put a Packet of Letters*

P. 22.

*Letters into* my *Hands, that being diſcreetly managed, might have been ſafely return'd to* Hewet, *and afterwards have been by him deliver'd as directed, without the leaſt ſuſpicion that they had been opened. Such a ſmart touch had been ſervice indeed, and wou'd deſervedly made* my *Fortune; but ſince this was every day in the 'Boy's power, and he would not oblige* me *with it, there is no reaſon to believe that the Boy wou'd truſt* me *with a greater matter, and what in all probability he was not truſted with himſelf; for none but Fools or Madmen wou'd put ſo many Lives into the hands of a Lad but of thirteen years of Age.*

Wou'd this indeed have been ſuch a piece of Service as he pretends, he has miſs'd his aim, and like an ill marks-man wounded the Duke with what was levell'd at me. For had the D— thought the ſight of thoſe Letters neceſſary, he knew I correſponded with the Perſon that convey'd 'em, and ought to have given me his Inſtructions in that matter; and ſince he did not, I ſhall preſume he did not ſet ſuch a value upon the ſight of 'em, as *R. Kingſton* wou'd teach him to do. Perhaps his Gr— had then no ſuch *diſcreet Managers* about him, as *R. Kingſton.* If he had, he might not only have ſeen, but kept the Originals, and deliver'd the Copies: but thoſe about him did not know that *diſcreet managery* of Hands and Seals, they had not the art of writing ſham Letters, and taking a Reward for decyphering 'em themſelves; tho I don't queſtion but he had Men about him,

of as great Ability and Prudence as *Richard Kingſton*. The D— himſelf was contented to be inform'd of what they contain'd, without the ſight of 'em, and upon better reaſons than *R. Kingſton* deſir'd it. He knew that *Hewet* was not intruſted with the knowledg of the uſe that I made of his Intelligence, and conſequently that I could not ask him to put a Packet into my Hands without betraying to him a Secret, which I did not think fit to make him a Confident of. *R. Kingſton* himſelf has own'd, that *Hewet* was of *experienc'd Fidelity*, and cou'd not in reaſon expect that he ſhou'd ſo far betray his Truſt, as to deliver up any Packet of Letters, or that I ſhould ſo far open my Deſign to him, as to ask him. What he communicated to me was done upon a full Confidence that our Reſolutions were the ſame; and I believe had he known the uſe I made of it, he wou'd not only have been cautious himſelf, but have made all thoſe that intruſted him to be ſo likewiſe. Nor is it any Reflection upon *Hewet*'s underſtanding, that he in this matter overſhot himſelf, ſince it is no more than Sir *W. Parkyns*, Sir *John Friend*, Captain *Charnock*, &c. did in the ſame Caſe. And whereas he wou'd inſinuate an improbability that *Hewet* ſhould be intruſted with what concern'd the Lives of ſo many Men, he has already own'd that he was intruſted with the Conveyance of all their Letters, (which is true) and conſequently with

 the

the beſt Evidence that cou'd be given againſt 'em.

But what *R. Kingſton* moſt inſiſts upon is, *That* John Hewet *being interrogated upon Oath by the Lords in Parliament, declared, that he never acquainted* me *with any of the Jacobites Secrets; but finding* me *inquiſitive, and prodigal of* my *Money, he collected News out of the Poſt-boy to get ſome Money from* me, *under pretence that it came from* France. P. 23.

To this he pretends I made no anſwer then, nor have attempted to diſprove it my *Memoirs*. But in this caſe, with his uſual Veracity, he affirms what either he knows nothing of, or knows to be falſe. For the point that *Hewet* was then examin'd to, in the *Houſe* of *Lords*, was a Letter ſent by the Lord *Melfort* to the Party in *England* in *December* 1696, almoſt a Year after the Diſcovery of the Aſſaſſination Plot, and the diſcontinuance of my Correſpondence with *Hewet*: and after having been laid aſide, I was deſir'd by the King to enter again into the Secret Service, and receiv'd inſtructions from a Miniſter to renew my Correſpondence with Mr. *Hewet*. Upon this I found him out, and procur'd from him a Copy under his own Hand, of the abovemention'd Letter, which I carried to my Lord *Portland*, who brought it into the *Houſe* of *Lords*, before whom at that time I was unhappily forc'd to appear upon

upon another Occaſion, which I knew nothing of. There while I was in Cuſtody, I was confronted by *Hewet* at large concerning that Letter. *Hewet*, who was ſtill employ'd by the Party, and true to 'em, had no other way to redeem his Error, than by denying that he ever ſaw any ſuch Letter from *France*; but not being able to deny his Hand, was forc'd to pretend that he collected it from the publick News: which Anſwer, as it was not true, ſo neither was it of his invention, but of ſome better Heads than his, or *R. Kingſton*'s, whoſe Intereſt it was to bring me into diſcredit. But the contents of that Letter it ſelf was ſuch as never appear'd in any *Poſt-boy*, or other publick Paper, before that time or ſince, and yet it contains matters which were then little thought of, and the event has ſince verifi'd. This particular Story I am forc'd to tell, becauſe *R. Kingſton* wou'd wreſt it to the diſadvantage of thoſe Informations which I gave the Duke a year before, and to which it has no manner of relation, being only an after ſtratagem of ſome of my Enemies to deſtroy my Credit, and leſſen the value of my former Services.

The next Evidence he brings againſt me, is Captain *George Porter*. For I ſhall take no notice of his impertinent Queſtions, becauſe they were ſufficiently anſwer'd before hand in my *Remarks*. Captain *Porter* was

pleas'd

pleas'd (as he phraſes it) to put a Lie into Sir *William Parkins*'s Mouth, and ſuch a one that it's very well known Sir *William* neither cou'd nor wou'd be guilty of. His words are theſe: *'Tis true*, ſays Sir *William*, *I married his Aunt, and therefore am oblig'd to be commonly Civil to him.* Here either he, or Captain *Porter*, has occaſion for a much better Memory, conſidering the buſineſs they are about. For who can believe any Story of which this Circumſtance is the main Evidence? They that know any thing of me, or my Family, very well know that Sir *William* was my Mother's Brother, and that his Lady was no Relation to me otherwiſe than as his Wife, and conſequently that thoſe that report this Story muſt have a very bad Memory, or a worſe Invention. Now whether Captain *Porter* invented this Story himſelf, or *R. Kingſton* for him, it matters not much. It's plain he that made it deſerves no Credit, and I ſhall leave them to diſpute the Title to it, betwixt themſelves. As for the truſt Sir *William* put in me, there is at preſent a viſible Teſtimony of it, in the *Armory* of the *Tower*, of more value than all that *Kingſton* can make Capt. *Porter* ſay. P. 26.

Capt. *Boyſe*, as he pretends, diſowns any knowledg of me. I ſhould be loth to ſuſpect any Gentleman upon the Credit of *R. Kingſton*. But if he did ſo, it muſt be becauſe he is unwilling to acknowledg his P. 27.

Obliga

Obligations to me. He has eaten and drank often at my Charge, and receiv'd my Charity when he was in *Newgate*. And cou'd I ſuppoſe what *R. Kingſton* ſays for him to be true, I have wherewithal under his hand to prove it a Lie.

In the next page *R. Kingſton* deſires thoſe that look into his Book, to *read all the Duke's Letters to* me. And I join with him in that Requeſt; and if he does not from thence diſcover *Kingſton* to be a Liar, I'll forfeit my Preferment, a ſtake equivalent to *his Judgment*. The D— indeed in his firſt Letter, has theſe words, *If you can do the Government ſervice*; but in the ſame Letter he ſays likewiſe,

*Mem.* p. 41. *Such a Diſcovery as you mention will be of great Service.*

Whether that Diſcovery was effected, my own Letter of the 25*th* of *December* 1694, and the *Armory* in the *Tower* can witneſs.

P. 28. But whereas *Kingſton* pretends that there is a *continued ſeries of uneaſineſs and ſuſpicion* to be diſcover'd in the Duke's Letters, I muſt likewiſe refer the Reader to the ſame Letters; where I believe he will find a ſtrain of good husbandry throughout, and no *uneaſineſs* but upon that Score.

P. 29. He pretends to prove by Credible Witneſſes (I ſuppoſe of equal Credit with himſelf, if he has any, of which before I have done I ſhall give

a

a further account) to prove, *That before I deliver'd out any Copies of my Letters, I knew from a good hand that my Originals sent to the D— were lost.*

The first and best hand that I knew, or could know it from, was the D—'s to the *House of Lords*, which I knew nothing of, till long after my Letters were in the *House of Lords*, and were acknowledg'd to be true ones by Mr. Secretary *V—n* before a Committee of that Honourable *House*. Did I in this prevaricate, all those noble Lords under whose Correction I am at this present, know how to convict me, and chastize me for it. But had I been of *R. Kingston's* Principles, and known what he affirms I did (which is more than I know yet) it had been in my power, and certainly in my will (I say if of his Principles) to have been very villanous and mischievous. But nothing of this is laid to my charge; tho I am so unhappy as to suffer for the breach of an Order which I did not know.

What follows till *page* 35. is only an unjust Accusation, and a parcel of *Ribaldry* upon Mr. *Brown*, which I hope he will vindicate himself from. But here it is plain *R. Kingston* has forfeited all his pretence to Judgment; for had he any, he that has so often us'd Mr. *Brown's* hand, not only to *correct*, but to *preface* for him (tho he lays it as a crime at my door to have taken one from him which

I could not use) should have known Mr. *Brown*'s *Stile* better, than to have suspected him of writing the *Remarks*; but that he pretends no certain knowledg of, and abuses Mr. *Brown* upon surprize only, to whose Chastisement I leave him for it.

He assumes me again upon the
P. 35. Head of Grievances, and (to use his own words) gives an unaccountable stretch of his Politicks, which is, that the taking me up, and confronting me with the person with whom I corresponded openly in the Secretary's Office, was done in order to conceal me. And here I find the only Truth in his whole Book, which is this, they *would not trust me with the reason why they did it.* I presume my self so little a stranger to it, that I don't want *R. Kingston*'s Information in the matter, nor do I believe any body else can, that ever read *p.* 136, and 137. of my *Memoirs*, or my *Remarks*.

Upon this evidence of his great reach and capacity for Politicks, or (to use his own phrase) of the *length* of his *Head*, he proceeds insolently to put the following
P. 35, 36. Questions to me: *Had he any harder measure than others under his Circumstances? Was not Sir* Thomas Pendergraft *and Mr.* La Rue, *that were the first Discoverers of the Assassination-Plot, taken up and committed? Is there not many reasons to be given for these prudent Proceedings?* This Fellow that

that has the impudence to reproach me with being a Dunce, no Scholar, one that understands no Latin, and has the face to pretend to Greek himself, thou'd have taken care not to ly so open to one so illiterate. But his Learning is of a piece with his Politicks; every line calls *Priſcian* Dunce, and every Queſtion *Machiavel* Blockhead. He abounds with falſe Concords and falſe Reaſonings, as if he had a mind to break one's Bones, and t'other's Brains out. Every one knows that thoſe Gentlemen were taken up, and Sir *Thomas Pendergraſt* upon Proclamation. Now I wou'd know of *R. Kingſton*, whether an intention to conceal 'em were not one of thoſe prudent Reaſons he mentions. It had been every whit as wonderful a piece of Cunning to put Sir *Thomas Pendergraſt* into the thouſand pound Proclamation in order to conceal him, as to confront me with *Hewet* publickly in the Secretary's Office with the ſame Deſign. But theſe, ſays *R. Kingſton*, were the firſt Diſcoverers of the Aſſaſſination-Plot: Of theſe Sir *Thomas Pendergraſt* was the firſt, and he knew nothing of it himſelf till the 14*th* of *February*, as appears by his own Depoſitions in *Charnock*'s Tryal, and cou'd not be brought to name any of the Conſpirators till the 21*ſt* of the ſame month 95, as the Earl of *Portland* and the Lord *Cutts* depoſe in the ſame Tryal. It will be needleſs here to repeat that I had given an earlier account of that Deſign before, and particularly by Letter to the

D—— of *S*— on the 14*th* of *February*, the very day that *Pendergraſt* was made acquainted with it; and again on the 19*th* by Letter to the ſame Perſon, wherein I gave him the names of thoſe whom *Pendergraſt* then obſtinately conceal'd, and of divers others whom he was not able to name. If therefore Sir *Thomas Pendergraſt* be a later Diſcoverer than I, Mr. *De la Rue*, who by his own Confeſſion came after him, can't pretend to put before me. For further information I muſt, to avoid tediouſneſs, refer the Reader to my *Memoirs*, where he will find authentick proof of all that I have aſſerted.

There remains only the matter of
*P.* 36. Sir *William Parkyns's* Petition, which he ſays *I fight in the dark*. 'Tis true I nam'd no body in my *Remarks*, let him make his beſt uſe of that. But for the truth of what I have ſaid, I appeal to the Duke of *Norfolk*, a Witneſs without exception, and likewiſe to the Lady *Parkyns*.

*He quotes theſe words for my Re-*
*P.* 39. *marks*: Whoever will take the pains to compare the Evidences of Capt. *Porter* and Mr. *Pendergraſt* with my *Memoirs*, will find there a ſufficient confirmation of every tittle that I ſay; tho he will plainly ſee, that *they* were even then but half inform'd of thoſe things which I had long before fully diſcover'd.

Here-

Hereupon he makes this Reflection. *There might be some pretence for* my *saying* I *knew more of the Plot, and before Sir* Thomas Pendergrast *did, whom Captain* Porter *sent for to Town but a little before the Treason was to be put in Execution; but to say* I *knew it sooner, and better than Captain* Porter, *is to tell the World, that if* I have *any Conscience, 'tis so Case-hardened it will boggle at nothing, and that Beelzebub would keck at a story* I *make no scruple at.*

I shall not dispute his Acquaintance with *Beelzebub*, he was a Liar from the beginning, and originally of the same Trade with *R. Kingston*. Then consequently their squeamish Stomachs may *keck* at Truth, the only thing they can't *digest*: But to make these words which he reflects upon, to be literally True, I shall desire the Reader to read the *Minutes* of the 18*th*, *Memoirs* p. 110. and the Letter of the 19*th*, p. 115, 116, 117. Which I shall *reprint* here, because many who may read this, may not have the *Memoirs* by 'em, or Opportunity to consult 'em: and shall leave it to the Judgment of any impartial Reader, whether the account there given be not more full and clear, as well as antecedent to the Discoveries made by those Gentlemen, and the matter given in Evidence by 'em in the printed Trials.

# A Letter to the D—— of S——.

*February* 19, 1695.

May it please your Gr——

*I Am extreamly troubled that I have been so importunate, and now at last questi-on'd of the Truth of what I have reported: I wish it were of no substance; if so, I had not troubled your Gr--ce. First then, as to my demands of Money I make none, but leave it wholly to Discretion, having been supply'd hitherto. Mr. V——'s Letter imports further satisfaction, I will therefore now give you all that has come to my Intelligence.* In my former Letters I intimated more than *once*,

☞ That there is a Resolution taken and form'd, and by Authority from *Fr---ce*, to seize upon the King at his diversion of Shooting or Hunting; and if possible to carry him off, they having in a readiness against the Time, a Vessel to convey him to *Fr---ce*;

*Fr--ce*; and in case they cannot do so, then they are to Gripe him.

*The Method how this was to be carried on and executed, I have been very inquisitive to know, and have diligently examin'd the matter, as first, they have got a number of Officers, all, or most Roman Catholicks, to the number of fifty, that are to undertake the seisure: And they, in order to it, have bought up Horses and Furniture, &c. and so are in a readiness, as time shall offer, for the compleating it. I was with my Intelligencer when he went to buy up Furniture as directed; and I further examined how this could be put in execution, the difficulty being great for so great a number to appear and go out together. He assured me that difficulty is pass'd over, as thus*; That it's resolved, upon the Intelligence they expect of the day the King is to Hunt or Shoot, to dispose of themselves after this Method, *to Inn by two or four at several Inns in adjacent Villages, habited as Country Gentlemen*; and upon the Day and Time of the King's taking his Pleasure, to meet together to perform

form this great Design. *They do conclude that when this matter is performed, it will so amuse the Government, that they cannot tell in twenty four Hours what Measures or Course to take; and that in that time they shall have carried the King away, or Griped him, as the expression is.* ☞ *Besides this body they are to* have twenty five Footmen in Ambuscade. *And upon conclusion of this* execrable *Design, I am further told, that then the Mob will be stirr'd up in several parts of the City, and the Gentlemen are to retreat to their several Counties to rise; for all measures are concerted: and upon this* Hurly-burly *the French Fleet will bring over the late King* James.

*The Persons particularly imploy'd, as I have hitherto learned, are these,* ☞ *Sir* George Barclay, *who is made a Major-General, and to command as chief Officer in this horrid Design, and Major* Holmes; *these two lately came from* France, *and disburse Money in order to it, and are the principal Actors: as for Persons in Town, I do learn that there is Captain* Charnock,

Charnock, *who has receiv'd a Lieutenant Colonel's Command*; *Captain* George Porter, *Mr.* Chambers, *a Captain of a French Privateer, and Captain* Boyse, *&c.* This is an Affair resolv'd on, *and I dare say will be put into Execution. As to the general* Invasion, *that will much depend on this* Action. *I am told that I must be imploy'd in* Warwickshire. *This I am sure of, I cannot expect to be let deeper into the Secret, unless I perform my promise in Equipping, which will give me an Opportunity to learn every thing. When I am* furnish'd, *I am confident nothing will be* conceal'd *from me,* and dare pawn my Life upon it, to get the Time and Day, *and put matters into such a Method,* as to crush them all when they are so dispos'd and quarter'd, and to countermine all their Undertakings. *When I have done this, I care not if it is* known *that* I am the Author, *since I have had such* repeated Assurances *from your Gr---* to be protected and provided for. *Captain* Charnock, *one of the* Grand Incendiaries, *is to assist me*

*in providing of Equipage, by which I hope to be further intrusted. This I promise, that as your Gr--- hath given me the Honour to intitle my self* your Gr--- faithful Servant, *I will so approve my self as to deserve it; and by your Gr---* Recommendation *the King's* Favour, *I humbly beg to know to* Morrow *your Gr---ce's* final Resolution; *and if your Gr--- pleaseth to allow me liberty to pay my Duty to your Gr---, I am in all humility,*

*Your Gr--- most, &c.*

After

After this, I ſhall only obſerve a falſe inference from the words before recited of my *Remarks*. Which is, that I ſay, I *knew* the Plot *ſooner and better than Captain* Porter; but with his leave thoſe words will bear no ſuch Interpretation; and whatever *Beelzebub* and *he* may do, no honeſt impartial Reader can *kick* at it. For all that can be infer'd from thoſe words is, that what I knew of the Plot, was *earlier* diſcover'd, and contain'd a *fuller* Account than can be *collected* from their *Evidence*. Whether Capt. *Porter* knew *more* or *earlier* of the Deſigns againſt his Majeſty's Government and Life, is not the point in queſtion. That's beſt known to himſelf: But whether he has ſet it *ſince* in ſo *full* and *clear* a *Light*, as I have *done before him* by the *Minutes* and Letter before *cited*, is what I *diſpute*, and ſhall leave to the Judgment of others.

In the cloſe of all he ſays, that I *acknowledg to have receiv'd from his Majeſty above three hundred Pound.* P. 41.

I know not certainly whether any of the Money which I receiv'd came by his Majeſty's Order, except fifty Guineas which I receiv'd by the hands of my Lord *Portland*, beſides which I had of the ſaid noble Lord five Guineas, twenty Guineas, and ten Guineas; but whether by, or without Order, I know not. From the D— of *S*— I received eighty Pounds at four ſeveral Paiments, of which,

*in providing of Equipage, by which I hope to be further intrusted. This I promise, that as your Gr--- hath given me the Honour to intitle my self* your Gr--- faithful Servant, *I will so approve my self as to deserve it; and by your Gr---* Recommendation *the King's* Favour, *I humbly beg to know to* Morrow *your Gr---ce's* final Resolution; *and if your Gr--- pleaseth to allow me liberty to pay my Duty to your Gr---, I am in all humility,*

*Your Gr--- most, &c.*

After

After this, I ſhall only obſerve a falſe inference from the words before recited of my *Remarks*. Which is, that I ſay, I *knew* the Plot *ſooner and better than Captain* Porter; but with his leave thoſe words will bear no ſuch Interpretation; and whatever *Beelzebub* and *he* may do, no honeſt impartial Reader can *kick* at it. For all that can be infer'd from thoſe words is, that what I knew of the Plot, was *earlier* diſcover'd, and contain'd a *fuller* Account than can be *collected* from their *Evidence*. Whether Capt. *Porter* knew *more* or *earlier* of the Deſigns againſt his Majeſty's Government and Life, is not the point in queſtion. That's beſt known to himſelf: But whether he has ſet it *ſince* in ſo *full* and *clear* a *Light*, as I have *done before him* by the *Minutes* and Letter before *cited*, is what I *diſpute*, and ſhall leave to the Judgment of others.

In the cloſe of all he ſays, that I
*acknowledg to have receiv'd from his* P. 41.
*Majeſty above three hundred Pound.*
I know not certainly whether any of the Money which I receiv'd came by his Majeſty's Order, except fifty Guineas which I receiv'd by the hands of my Lord *Portland*, beſides which I had of the ſaid noble Lord five Guineas, twenty Guineas, and ten Guineas; but whether by, or without Order, I know not. From the D— of *S*— I received eighty Pounds at four ſeveral Paiments, of which,

and the occasion, I have given an Account in my *Memoirs*: And by the hands of Mr. *Arnold*, from I know not whom, in the King's name, a hundred Pounds in order to be dispatch'd out of the Land. For what reason, the Reader may find elsewhere. All this amounts to two hundred seventy three Pounds and ten Shillings, which by *R. Kingston*'s Arithmetick is above three hundred Pounds.

Perhaps the three hundred Pounds *R. Kingston* boasts to have receiv'd for this lying Answer to my *Memoirs*, &c. may shrink to a much less Sum, if truly cast up. I am sure if his Reward was proportion'd to his Merit, he had been paid in *Hemp*, instead of *Tallies*, which he falsly brags of. But since he is so free in his Book with scatter'd Interrogatories, I shall ask him a few short Questions, which I know he can truly answer, tho I question whether he will or no.

*Question* 1. Whether he knows the Man that forg'd Letters of Orders, and stopt a Woman's Mouth in a Hay-loft with the sleeve of his Gown, while he committed Adultery, if not a Rape upon her, and was ignominiously chas'd by the Bishop of *Ex*—— (then of *Br--l*) out of his Diocess?

*Quest.* 2. Whether he knows the Fellow who had the impudence to say publickly in the *Court* of *Requests*, that he was turn'd out of a Living of 400 *l. per Annum*, for preaching

ing against Popery in the late King *James*'s time by the aforesaid Bishop, and run away for fear of being confronted?

*Quest.* 3. Whether he knows the Man that insinuated himself into a sick Clergy-man near *Exeter*, to be his Curate, and ran away with his Gown, Cassock, and his Horse, having borrow'd 'em under pretence of waiting upon a Gentleman at *Glocester*, of whom he expected the presentation of a Living?

*Quest.* 4. Whether the same Man did not personate the late Bishop of *Peterborough* (Doctor *White*) and borrow four Guineas of his Landlord, under pretence that his Servant, who carried his Portmanteau, was fallen sick upon the Road: and whether having given that Landlord the slip, he ever had the Honesty to return and pay the Money?

*Quest.* 5. Whether he knows one that personated one *Brownfield* the Quaker in *Kent*, and came to Town, and received Money for discovering where he might be found?

*Quest.* 6. Whether he knows one that can write sham Letters in Characters, and lay himself in the way to receive a Reward for deciphering 'em?

*Quest.* 7. Whether he knows one Mr. *Shrewsbury*, a Bookseller near *Little Britain*, that Indicted his only Friend for Bookstealing?

*Quest.* 8. Whether he knows a sham Clergy-man, that stands indicted for Sodomy, and Bigamy?

*Quest.*

*Quest.* 9. Whether he knows that impudent Fellow who pretends to have receiv'd three hundred Pounds for writing an Answer to Captain *Smyth's Memoirs*? &c.

When *R. Kingston* thinks fit to give a true Answer to these Questions, I shall think I have done with him. But if he stands Mute, I shall take a further Opportunity to press him to plead, by weight of Proof. And if he falsifies, I shall take care to set the World right as to his Credit, and give demonstrative proofs from Record, what a lover *R. Kingston* is of *Truth and Justice*; and till then I shall leave him to the Consideration of the Reader, desiring no other Favour from him, or any other Persons, than to have my Case fairly and impartially consider'd, whether by open Trial or otherwise.

*FINIS.*